

Representative Gigi Talcott

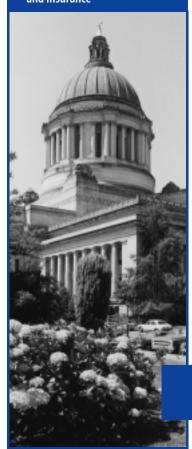
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Committees: Education, co-chair Financial Institutions and Insurance



2000 Pre-Session Survey

Representing Anderson Island, Fircrest, Lakewood, Steilacoom, part of Tacoma, Tillicum and University Place

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As we rush into the holiday season and spend more time with family and friends, it is also almost time for us to return to Olympia for the legislative session. With only the 60-day session planned, it will be critical to hit the ground running so we can be done with our business on time again.

The passage of Initiative 695 will be at the forefront of many discussions this year. We are working to resolve problems in the health care market and education will be a priority once again.

Please take a moment to review the material inside and answer the questions in our survey. You can either mail your responses back, or bring them with you to the town hall meeting in January. Your input is important because it helps us better represent you.

Thank you for allowing us to serve you in Olympia.

Best Holiday Wishes,

Gigi Talcott

Mike Carrell

Representative Mike Carrell

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Committees:
Judiciary, co-chair
Children and Family Services
Finance

INSIDE:

Initiative 695 – we will make it work

I-695 Survey

HEALTH CARE

- HOW DO WE FIX IT?

Health Care Survey



28th District

Toll-free: 1-800-562-6000

200 Pre-Session Survey.

Initiative 695 passed. Now what?

With the voter approval of Initiative 695, the Motor Vehicle Excise Tax (MVET) has been repealed and replaced with a flat \$30 fee on car license tabs.

What's the cost?

The nonpartisan state Office of Financial Management and state Department of Revenue have analyzed the potential fiscal impacts to government and estimate I-695 will result in MVET revenue reductions of \$1.1 billion in the current biennium (1999-01) and \$1.7 billion in the 2001-03 biennium.

On the other hand, with more than half a billion dollars a year back in the pockets of taxpayers, it is highly probable we'll see noticeable increases in other tax revenues, such as the sales tax, as citizens reinvest tax savings into the economy.

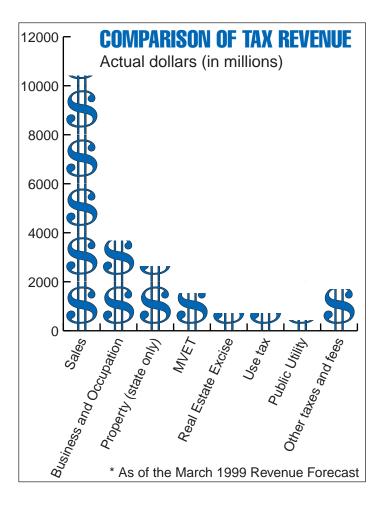
What programs are affected?

Due to passage of Referendum 49 in 1998, MVET revenues no longer go to the state general fund. Consequently, the revenue reduction will come primarily from state transportation accounts and funding for road and highway improvements could be reduced.

Smaller shares of the MVET are deposited into accounts which provide assistance to local governments. In addition to repealing the MVET, passage of I-695 also reduces revenues to local

transit districts, local criminal justice accounts and the air pollution control account





Mike Carrell

State Representative **Gigi Talcott**

Initiative I-695 – We will make it work

Initiative 695 is NOT a license to shortchange important services. We will make this work — and still deliver the important services that people expect and deserve from government. We will accomplish this by setting priorities when it comes to spending your tax dollars and

TRANSPORTATION BUDGET

Dept. of Licensing 3.7%

Other Agencies 8.7%

Local Governments 4.5%

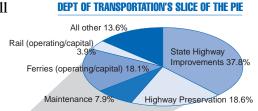
Rural Economic Development 1.6% Washington State Patrol 5.4%

choosing good programs over wasteful and ineffective ones. We will direct resources to areas of highest priority and improve management of state programs to achieve greater efficiency in the use of taxpayer dollars.

We will also be watching the legal challenges closely to see if there is something the Legislature needs to do to enact the will of the people.

1999-2000 OVERALL

You deserve our best effort to make this new law work, not excuses.



Dept. of Transportation 75.6%

Le cut out and mail back to us. Thank you.

I-695 Survey

With passage of I-695, MVET revenue has been reduced. How should the Legislature address this loss? (Please circle your preference)

- **A.** Cut spending and services
- **B.** Use the surplus to restore cuts
- C. Ask for public approval of a tax increase
- **D.** A combination of spending cuts, surplus use and tax increase

After reviewing the charts of where current transportation dollars go (above), what are your priorities on transportation spending? (Please number according to preference, with #1 being the highest)

number according to preference, with #1 being the highest)

— Highway projects
— (construction/maintenance/preservation)
— Ferries
— Rail
— Local governments
— Rural economic development
— Washington State Patrol
— Department of Licensing
— Other (please use additional space provided)

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Please take a moment to share your

To allow us to personally respond, please include your name and phone number.

Name: ______

Phone:

Pre-Session Survey 000

HEALTH CARE — HOW DO WE FIX IT?

In the early 1990's, people in our state could choose from a variety of health plans with reasonable premiums — if they didn't like the way they were covered or the way their insurance company treated them, they could move to another. But in 1993, the Legislature and governor approved laws that gave government new powers over health insurance. The '93 laws, though partly overturned in 1995, are wreaking havoc on the insurance market to this day.

Some facts about today's individual health care marketplace.

 Individuals in 32 (out of 39) counties have no private insurance carrier from which they can purchase an individual insurance policy

- In 1993, 18 insurance carriers offered plans in the individual insurance market. Now there are only three serving seven counties
- Approximately 499,000 adults in Washington remain uninsured through the individual insurance market. For those who do have current policies, rates are increasing 30-60 percent each year.

Health Care Survey

The Legislature will again attempt to address the current health care crisis. Your answers to the following questions will be very helpful in assisting us in solving the problem.

Do you support a free-market health care systems or government-run (single-payer)?

- A. Free market
- **B.** Government-run

Washington state currently requires a person with a pre-existing medical condition to wait only three months after buying a health plan before getting covered treatment for that condition — similar to buying homeowner's insurance after the house has caught fire. Most states, including Idaho and Oregon, have a 12-month waiting period.

I support:

- **A.** A 12-month waiting period
- **B.** A nine-month waiting period
- **C.** The current three-month waiting period
- D. No waiting period at all

Since the Legislature passed the Health Services Act (health care reform) in 1993, do you consider the overall health care system to be:

- A. Better
- B. Same
- C. Worse
- D. I don't have health care coverage

Under free market health care conditions, health care consists of three basic components when determining coverage: choice of doctor, premiums and benefits. Examples would be: being able to choose your doctor, low premiums, but minimal benefits; or being able to choose your doctor, full benefit package, but high premiums; or a full benefit package, low premiums, but not having your choice of doctor.

Considering you and/or your family's health care needs, which type of plan would you desire:

- **A.** Choice of doctor, low premiums and minimal benefits
- **B.** Choice of doctor, expanded benefits and high premiums
- **C.** Expanded benefits, low premiums but no choice of doctor
- **D.** Minimal benefits, no doctor choice and potentially low premiums (gov't-run system)

Mike Carrell

Gigi Talcott

Thank you for taking the time to answer the survey questions. Your input allows us to make more informed decisions on issues affecting you and your family.

Please cut along the dotted line, tape or staple the pages together, place a 33 cent stamp on the return address panel and mail. Or you can bring the survey with you to the Town Hall Meeting.

MEETING NOTICE

Saturday, January 8th, 2000 9 a.m. — Noon

Lakewood Library



P.O. Box 40600 Olympia, WA 98504-0600

State Representative Gigi Talcott

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Pre-Session Survey 000

JOIN US

Saturday, January 8th, 2000

Lakewood Library

9 a.m. — Noon



2000 Survey Survey

P.O. Box 40600 Olympia, WA 98504-0600

State Representative Gigi Talcott

State Representative Mike Carrel

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